

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are currently pending. Claims 5 and 9-13 were withdrawn as belonging to the non-elected invention. Claims 1 and 3 are amended herein. The amendments to the claims are supported throughout the as-filed application, and for example, in paragraph [0022] of the published application (“...the wound healing therapeutic agent and/or the inhibitor are conjugated to the medically acceptable polymer by the linker group. Preferably, the wound healing therapeutic agent and the inhibitor are each separately conjugated to the medically acceptable polymer by the linker group.”). Claims 2 and 4 are cancelled herein, without prejudice to the inclusion of any of the amended or cancelled subject matter in any other patent application.

Claims 1, 3, 6-8, and 14-17 are currently under consideration.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

1. Claims 1-4, 6-8 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly obvious in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0012693 (“Cohen”). It is alleged that Cohen describes the claimed invention. Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection for the following reasons.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants note that claims 2 and 4 have been cancelled herein, rendering the rejection of these claims moot.

It is well-settled that “[a] claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.” See *In re Bond*, 15 USPQ2d 1566, 1567 (Fed. Cir. 1990) and also MPEP § 2131 (quoting *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil C. of Calif.*, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987)). “The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ...claim” *Id.* (quoting *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989)). Therefore, Nixon must describe each and every element of claims 1, 2 and 8-10 in order to anticipate these claims under section 102(b). However, Cohen does not meet this burden. Cohen does not teach or describe all of the claim limitations.

As amended, the pending claims require that the wound healing therapeutic agent and the inhibitor are each separately conjugated to the medically acceptable polymer by the linker group. Cohen does not describe separate wound-healing therapeutic agent and inhibitor, wherein each is

separately conjugated to the medically acceptable polymer by the linker group. Accordingly, because Cohen does not teach each and every element of the amended claims, Applicants submit that Cohen does not anticipate Applicants' claims, and request that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

2. Claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 14-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as allegedly obvious in view of Publication No. GB 2382775 ("Cullen"). It is alleged that Cullen describes the claimed invention. Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection for the following reasons.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants note that claims 2 and 4 have been cancelled herein, rendering the rejection of these claims moot.

As amended, the pending claims require that the wound healing therapeutic agent and the inhibitor are each separately conjugated to the medically acceptable polymer by the linker group. Cullen does not describe a wound-healing therapeutic agent and an inhibitor, wherein each is separately conjugated to the medically acceptable polymer by the linker group. Accordingly, because Cullen does not teach each and every element of the amended claims, Applicants submit that Cullen does not anticipate Applicants' claims, and request that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Summary

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is therefore earnestly solicited. Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (215) 963-5809 to clarify any unresolved issues raised by this response.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge/credit Deposit Account No. **50-0310** (Billing No. 101713-5057) for any other required fees, deficiencies or overpayments in connection with this Response.

Respectfully submitted,

BREDA MARY CULLEN ET AL.

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